

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT Labor Service Bill

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25X1 The draft for a bill which provides for the compulsory labor service of
men between 18 and 60 years of age and of women from 18 to 45 years of
age is in preparation. The draft of the bill was submitted to the party
25X1 committees of the People's Chamber. The bill is expected to be put in
force within one or two months' time. *

25X1 * ☐ Comment. The bill must be distinguished from the decree on the
establishment of a "Service for Germany" which was adopted by the
Ministers' Council in Eastern Germany on 24 July 1952 and was made public
by the eastern newspaper, Neues Deutschland, on 25 July 1952. This decree
only provided for the labor service on major construction projects of
youths of 17 years of age and older. The introduction of a universal labor
service evidently is to fill the gap in the labor market which is expected
to develop with the activation of a National Army.

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